Revenue remission in Visakhapatnam district.

* 311 *Q.*—SRI K. GOVINDA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Visakhapatnam made a request to the Government that complete remission should be granted this year in view of the fact that crops have utterly failed in Visakhapatnam district; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—"(*a*) & (*b*) The Collector of Visakhapatnam submitted proposals to the Board of Revenue for the grant of special land revenue remissions in the drought-affected areas of the district. But according to the principle laid down by the Government for the grant of special remissions, for a village to qualify itself for such remissions, crops should have failed in not less than 25 per cent of the dry lands in that village. As no village in the district has satisfied this condition, special remissions are not proposed to be granted in any part of Visakhapatnam district. Ordinary seasonal remissions will however be granted wherever necessary."

SRI K. GOVINDA RAO :—"In view of the fact that the situation is worsening every day as evidenced by the recent crop report of the Government, will the Government reconsider their position and declare special remissions in areas which are terribly affected?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—"I want the hon. Member to kindly note that 40,000 and odd acres of land were affected and remission to the tune of Rs. 2,24,728 was granted."

Extension of the Commercial Crops Markets Act to Kasaragode taluk.

* 312 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANA NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any proposal to include Kasaragode taluk (South Kanara) within the area of operation of the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Act of 1933; and

(*b*) whether the Government received any representation from the Kasaragode Taluk Tobacco Growers' Association with regard to the marketing of tobacco and, if so, what action was taken?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—"(*a*) In 1949, the Government declared the entire South Kanara district (including Kasaragode taluk) as a notified area under the Madras Commercial Crops Markets Act, 1933, in respect of coconuts, and its by-products and arecanuts.

'(*b*) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. The second part of the question therefore does not arise."